

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4 at line 15 with the following written paragraph:

Fig. 2 shows an alignment between the amino acid sequence of SYNCRIP and (SEQ ID NO: 4) and the amino acid sequences of hnRNP R (SEQ ID NOS: 10 & 11) (SEQ ID NO: 10) and mouse hnRNP R (Clone 18; SEQ ID NO: 11).